

## Message Text

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ACTION STR-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 EB-07 SS-15 NSC-05

SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 ITC-01 PA-01 PRS-01

USIA-06 COME-00 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 CEA-01 OMB-01 /073 W

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R 191654Z JUL 76

FM USDEL MTN GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1765

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE USDEL MTN GENEVA 5744

ACTION STR

FOR AMBASSADOR YEUTER AND MR. FEKETEKUTY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD MTN

SUBJECT: JAPANESE ATTITUDES ON TARIFFS

1. WHAT FOLLOWS IS A DISTILLATION OF COMMENTS BY UKAWA AT WORKING LUNCH ON FIRDAY, JULY 16, AND ON THE MARGIN OF A DINNER PARTY THAT EVENING.

2. HE STRONGLY DENIED STORY IN JAPAN NEWSPAPER THIS WEEK THAT TARIFF-CUTTING FORMULA WOULD BE  $Y = 30 + X$  ITERATED THREE TIMES. HE SAID NEWSPAPER HAD SIMPLY TRIED TO FIND A LINE BETWEEN US AND EC POSITIONS AND THAT THE FORMULA THE PAPER FLOATED HAD NO GOVERNMENT SUPPORT. HE ALSO SAID HE THOUGHT IT VERY UNLIKELY THAT THE JAPANESE WOULD SIMPLY ADOPT THE  $Y = X$  ITERATED FOUR TIMES FORMULA OF THE COMMUNITY. HE SAID HIS BEST GUESS WAS THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD FORMALLY ADVANCE THE  $2X = 3$  PLUS 3 FORMULA IT HAS BEEN DISCUSSING INFORMALLY. HE FELT THIS WAS PROBABLY THE MAXIMUM THE JAPANESE COULD ADVANCE WITHOUT VERY WIDESPREAD EXCEPTIONS.

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3. HE RECOMMENDED THAT AMBASSADOR YEUTTER EMPHASIZE US TARIFF-CUTTING AMBITIONS WITH THE FINANCE MINISTRY OFFICIALS WITH WHOM HE MEETS IN TOKYO RATHER THAN AT MITI. FINANCE IS WHERE HE MAY FIND ALLIES WHEREAS AT MITI HE WILL FIND OPPONENTS, ACCORDING TO UKAWA.

4. HE SO RECOMMENDED THAT YEUTTER EMPHASIZE THE POLITICAL IMPORTANCE AS WELL AS THE PRACTICAL IMPORTANCE -OF THE 1977 COMPLETION DATE. HE SAID THAT APART FROM OUTGOING PM MIKI, NO ONE IN JAPANESE GOVERNMENT IS TAKING THE 1977 DATE SERIOUSLY. HE RECOMMENDED THAT AMBASSADOR YEUTTER MAKE IT PLAIN THAT THE PRIORITY ATTENTION GIVEN TO 1977 BY THE US WOULD PERSIST REGARDLESS OF OUTCOME OF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION AND REGARDLESS OF WHO MIGHT BE IN CHARGE OF US NEGOTIATIONS.

5. UKAWA COMMENTED THAT THE "NEW TEAM" OF BOTH SENIOR AND KEY MIDDLE-LEVEL OFFICIALS WHO WERE ABOUT TO COME ON THE SCENE WHEN AMBASSADOR DENT WAS IN TOKYO LAST MONTH SHOULD NOW ALL BE ENSCONCED. HE FELT THIS WOULD GIVE AMBASSADOR YEUTTER AN OPPORTUNITY TO CONVEY US VIEWS TO OFFICIALS WHO WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR JAPANESE TRADE POLICY FOR THE NEXT TWO YEARS OF SO AND THAT HE SHOULD LEAN ON THEM FAIRLY HEAVILY TO BRING HOME THE IMPORTANCE OF THE MTN, THE INEVITABILITY OF A SIGNIFICANT JAPANESE ROLE AND CONSEQUENTLY THE NEED FOR MORE URGENT GOJ PREPARATIONS. WALKER

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLICIES, TARIFFS, TRADE CONTROLS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 JUL 1976  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** saccheem  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**To:** STATE  
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